

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1177

By Williams

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Boyd Coddington of Idaho.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Boyd Coddington; and

WHEREAS, a native of Rupert, Idaho, Mr. Coddington was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Boyd Coddington, a lifelong hot rod enthusiast, devoted his life's work to street rodding; he spearheaded the vastly influential street rodding renaissance during the late 1970's and is the father of smooth style street rods, hot rods, and customs; and

WHEREAS, his innovative designs have had an immeasurable impact on American culture, leaving an indelible mark on the daily lives of all the good people of our Nation; few indeed are not familiar with his many ground-breaking hot rods, including the Vern Luce Coupe, CadZZilla, Chezoom, the Smoothster, the Boydster, and the Aluma Coupe; and

WHEREAS, in creating such memorable vehicles, Mr. Coddington had the opportunity to collaborate with and influence many of the automotive industry's biggest celebrities, such as the renowned Chip Foose, Jessie James, Thom Taylor, Larry Wood, Todd Emmons, Chris Ito, Eric Brockmeyer, and Larry Erickson; and

WHEREAS, Boyd Coddington's efforts garnered him numerous awards, including the America's Most Beautiful Roadster Award seven different times, the Daimler-Chrysler Design Excellence Award twice, the Ridler Award, the Al Slonaker Award, and the 1988 *Hot Rod Magazine* Man of the Year Award; he was inducted into the SEMA Hall of Fame, the Grand National Roadster Show Hall of Fame, the Route 66 Wall of Fame, and the Street Rod Marketing Alliance Hall of Fame; and

WHEREAS, his 1933 coupe was included in the Smithsonian Institution's 1993 Sculpture on Wheels exhibit, further establishing Mr. Coddington as an American icon whose ingenuity was known and appreciated the world over; and

WHEREAS, a consummate public servant, Boyd Coddington founded the Coddington Foundation in 2005, providing terminally ill children the opportunity to experience their dreams through building hot rods; the Foundation also provides work opportunities for mentally challenged adults; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Coddington was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Boyd Coddington enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Jo; his sons, Boyd Coddington, Jr., Christopher Coddington, Thomas McGee, Gregory Coddington, and Robert McGee; his sister, Kris Ruesch; his six grandchildren; and his one great-grandchild; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Coddington leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Boyd Coddington, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction and expressing our deep appreciation for his artistry and its continued impact on our culture.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Coddington.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.